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TO: Public Safety Agencies of Wisconsin

FROM: State Interoperability Executive Council

SUBJECT: Technical Plan to Support Statewide Communications Interoperability

DATE: June 12, 2006

The State Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) is pleased to submit to the public safety community of Wisconsin two important documents for improving communications across the state: a draft Technical Plan to Support Statewide Interoperability and Functional Specifications for a proposed Wisconsin Public Safety Communications System (WPSCS). Both documents are in draft form and are being distributed in order to allow for a period of public comment before they are finalized. They were provisionally approved for distribution by the SIEC on May 25, 2006 and reflect the general intent of the SIEC in presenting an optimal technical solution to improving public safety radio communications in the state.

The SIEC invites comment on these documents until September 1, 2006. Individuals and agencies may submit comments and questions via email to siec@wi.gov. The SIEC will compile and review these comments periodically and post an FAQ with responses to the questions that are submitted at <http://siec.wi.gov>.

The SIEC also plans to hold a number of listening sessions throughout the state in July and August of this year to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to engage the SIEC in a discussion about the plan.

The SIEC expects to publish the final plan in October. In the meantime, plans providing guidance on training and exercising, governance, operations, and usage are currently in development and will eventually be merged into one comprehensive communications interoperability plan.

True interoperability will only be achieved in Wisconsin through the collective effort of all levels of government in all communities throughout the state. This technical plan is only the first step on a long road, and needs your input in order to best serve all the citizens of Wisconsin. We hope that you will join the SIEC in taking this step by taking part in the development of this technical plan over the coming months, and we thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

David Steingraber
Executive Director, Office of Justice Assistance
Chair, SIEC